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SOURCE Hungaria.SOVIETS TIGHTEN CONTROL OF AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN BORDER

STRENGTHEN BORDER STATIONS --- Munich, Hungaria, 15 Dec 50

Since the concentration of Soviet troops from Bakony and other encampments in the 15-kilometer-deep Austrian border zone, AVH (State Security Authority) border stations have increased in strength and activity. Previously, AVH border stations immediately sent prisoners to Gyor to prevent news of AVH "philanthropic activities" from spreading across the border.

Now, to render the border air-tight, previously insignificant AVH stations at Hegyeshalom, Sopron, Koszeg, and Kormend have been greatly strengthened. Koszeg is particularly crowded with Soviet troops and AVH henchmen, who occupy the houses of evacuated civilians. Very few private stores are open in the city, and the remaining inhabitants rarely venture out of doors for fear of the brawling, drunken Soviet soldiers.

The present location of the AVH station at Koszeg is at No 3 Kulso-korut. In addition, the former Simay villa on the corner of Veleml-ut and the street leading to the former officers' resort has been commandeered for "interrogation purposes." The villa is surrounded by a plot of ground 300 meters in radius and a 2-meter wire fence topped by multifold barbed wire. The windows of the building are covered with iron grating. Most of the 10-12 rooms are used for interrogation; half of the basement is a prison and the other half houses three cremating ovens, built with an eye to latest Soviet experiences. The other AVH border stations have also been equipped with cremating ovens.

The director of the Koszeg detachment is AVH captain Ferenc Karpati. Most notorious of his staff are First Lieutenant Sandor Ordog and Detective Ferenc Szabo. Szabo is a misshapen midget who personally beats prisoners and has been nicknamed "pocket cruiser." Because of numerous anonymous threatening letters, he recently effected his own transfer to Szombathely.

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FILM DIRECTOR SHOT FLEEING COUNTRY -- Munich, Hungaria, 8 Dec 50

Felix Podmaniczky, 39-year-old world-famous film director, and protege of Geza Bolvary, was shot while attempting to flee the country last week. He was one of a group of 14 men discovered at dawn at a cut in the border barbed wire barrier and mine field. AVH guards opened fire, wounding five of the fugitives and killing Podmaniczky.

Podmaniczky was one of the most active directors of the Hunnia film company. He was arrested in 1945 and sentenced to $4\frac{1}{2}$ years imprisonment, but was released 2 years later. Podmaniczky was attempting to join Bolvary in Germany.

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